

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 IO-13 ISO-00 L-03 FRB-03

OMB-01 ITC-01 SP-02 USIA-06 AGRE-00 AID-05

CIAE-00 COME-00 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 OIC-02

EPG-02 SIL-01 STR-04 TRSE-00 CEA-01 AF-10 ARA-10

NEA-10 /112 W

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FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9411

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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USOECD USEEC

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UNCTAD EFIN

SUBJECT: UNCTAD DEBT EXPERTS MEETING - DAY TWO

1. SUMMARY: ISSUE OF AGENDA FINALLY RESOLVED SATISFACTORILY
EARLY AFTERNOON SECOND DAY. EXPERTS' GROUP NOW REVIEWING CIEC
PROPOSALS. REVIEW LIKELY TERMINATE TOMORROW, AFTER WHICH CONTACT
GROUP WILL BEGIN DRAFTING REPORT FOR ADOPTION BY EXPERTS. END
SUMMARY.

2. ISSUE OF AGENDA IMPASSE HIGHLIGHTED GROUP B MEETING OPENING
SECOND DAY. USG URGED AVOIDANCE OF ANY "COMPROMISE" WHICH
CARRIED MANDATE BEYOND RESOLUTION 94(IV). UK AND EC SUPPORTED THIS
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POISITON. SWITZERLAND AND CANADA ALSO AGREED SUPPORT POSITION BUT
URGED COMPROMISE IF NECESSARY TO AVOID A DEADLOCK. SWEDEN SUPPORT-
ED G-77 POSITION.

3. IN RESTRICTED GROUP, THE G-77 PROPOSED VARIOUS FORMULA WHICH
WERE THEREFORE REJECTED BY GROUP B COORDINATOR (PFAUWADEL. AFTER
PROLONGED DEBATE, AGREEMENT WAS REACHED ON FOLLOWING LANGUAGE FOR

AGENDA: QUOTE QUESTIONS ARISING OUT OF CONFERENCE RESOLUTION 94(IV) AND RELEVANT PROPOSALS AND RECOMMENDATIONS. UNQUOTE. GROUP B ALSO STATED THAT TERM "RELEVANT" WAS UNDERSTOOD TO MEAN THAT WHICH WAS PURSUANT TO RESOLUTION 94(IV).

4. SPOKESMAN FOR G-77 (GHANA) OPENED PLENARY WITH REVIEW OF STANDARD G-77 POSITION ON NEED FOR IMMEDIATE AND GENERALIZED DEBT RELIEF. HE CALLED FOR POLITICAL LEVEL DECISION TO FACILITATE ADOPTION OF IMMEDIATE ACTION. GROUP B SPOKESMAN FOLLOWED WITH A BROAD REVIEW OF EVENTS SINCE UNCTAD IV. STRESS WAS ON FACT THAT ONLY A FEW COUNTRIES HAD REQUESTED INTERNATIONAL ACTION ON THEIR DEBT AND THAT THESE CASES WERE TREATED EFFECTIVELY. U.S. FOLLOWED WITH A DESCRIPTION OF U.S./EC CIEC PROPOSAL, AND STATING VIEW THAT PROPOSAL WAS FULLY RESPONSIVE TO THE CURRENT DEBT SITUATION AS IT AFFECTS DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. THE EC ENDORSED THE U.S. STATEMENT. GHANA STATED G-19 PROPOSALS WERE ACTUALLY MORE CONSTRUCTIVE THAN THAT OF U.S./EC, AND EGYPT GAVE A DETAILED EXPLANATION OF G-19 PROPOSALS. THE PLENARY ENDED WITH BANGLADESH DELEGATE STATING THAT "IN ORDER TO CLARIFY ANY MISUNDERSTANDINGS THAT MAY HAVE ARISEN", HE WAS OBLIGED TO STATE THAT RESOLUTION 98(IV) WAS ALSO A MATTER FOR THE DEBT EXPERTS. (SINCE 98(IV) ISSUE RAISED, WE -- LIKELY WITH EC AND JAPAN SUPPORT -- WILL MAKE STATEMENT TOMORROW REBUTTING BANGLADESH INTERPRETATION OF MANDATE.)

5. PLENARY WILL RESUME TOMORROW WITH FURTHER CRITIQUE OF CIEC PROPOSALS. CONTACT GROUP WILL THEN BEGIN DRAFTING REPORT TO BE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ADOPTED BY DEBT EXPERTS. GIVEN THE PROBLEM IN GETTING AGREEMENT ON A SONE-LINE AGENDA ITEM, THE TASK OF GETTING AN AGREED REPORT APPEARS FORMIDABLE. IT IS STILL NOT CLEAR WHAT G-77 HOPE TO GET OUT OF REPORT, BUT THEY ARE LIKELY TO PUSH ON SEVERAL FRONTS UNACCEPTABLE TO U.S.

6. QUESTION OF HOW TO TREAT PAPERS CIRCULATED BY UNCTAD SECRETARIAT HAS CAUSED SOME CONCERN IN GROUP B. SOME DELEGATIONS URGE THAT WE NEED TO GET OUR CRITICISMS OF PAPERS ON RECORD. WE HAVE ADVOCATED TREATING PAPERS IN LOW KEY FASHION AND, AS LONG AS WE CAN PREVENT THEM FROM HAVING ANY OFFICIAL STATUS, TO AVOID CRITIQUE WHICH -- GIVEN BROAD RANGES PAPERS' SUBJECT MATTER -- WOULD TAKE DISCUSSION OUTSIDE FRAMEWORK RESOLUTION 94(IV). UP TO NOW, LOW KEY APPROACH PREVAILING.
VANDEN HEUVEL

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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
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Sent Date: 20-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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